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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

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Division Director

Inspection Report

Minerals Regulatory Program

Report Date October 6, 2006

Supervisor

[Signature]

Mine Name: Santa Barbara
Operator Name: Star Stone Quarries

Permit number: S0130006
Inspection Date: May 17, 2006
Time: 10:10-10:20 AM

Inspector(s): Paul Baker
Other Participants: None
Mine Status: Reclaimed

Weather: Mostly clear, 70s

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Concurrent Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Water Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Inspection:

The operator reported applying manure, fertilizer, and seed, and I wanted to see whether there was any sign of new seedlings or increased vegetation cover.

Inspection Summary:

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds

This site was last mined in 1999, and the operator has requested that it be released. I have previously recommended against release because there was not adequate vegetation cover.

10. Revegetation

I did not see evidence of manure, fertilizer, or seed.

I measured vegetation cover in three areas, the reclaimed area, an undisturbed area with pinyon/juniper overstory, and an undisturbed area with no overstory. I included overstory cover in measurements of the pinyon juniper community.

I obtained values of 11.8 percent for the reclaimed area, 18.5 percent for the pinyon/juniper community, and 13.6 percent cover for the undisturbed area with no overstory.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

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The amount of cover in the reclaimed area has not changed markedly over the past few years since I started measuring cover. The area is relatively flat and does not show any signs of accelerated erosion.

The reclaimed area does not have as much vegetation cover as the adjacent pinyon/juniper community, but it has more than 70 percent of the cover of a nearby undisturbed area without the pinyon/juniper overstory.

Inspector's Signature PBB Date: 10/16/06

PBB:pb

cc: Lon Thomas, Star Stone

Attachment: Photos

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ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M0130006, Santa Barbara Mine, Start Stone Quarries

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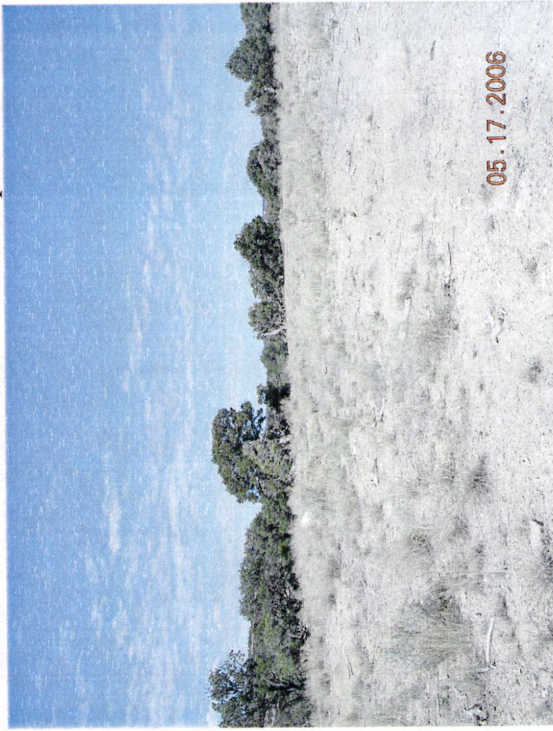


Photo 1. These four photos are various views of the site showing how some areas are well vegetated and others are not.

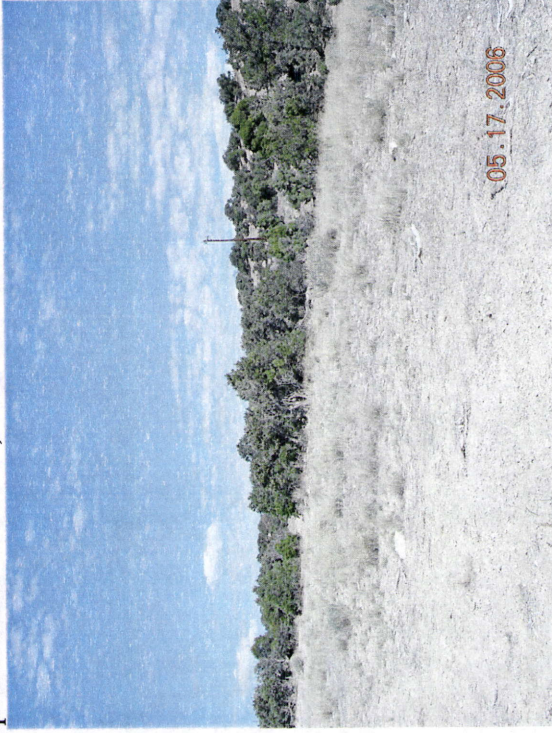


Photo 3.

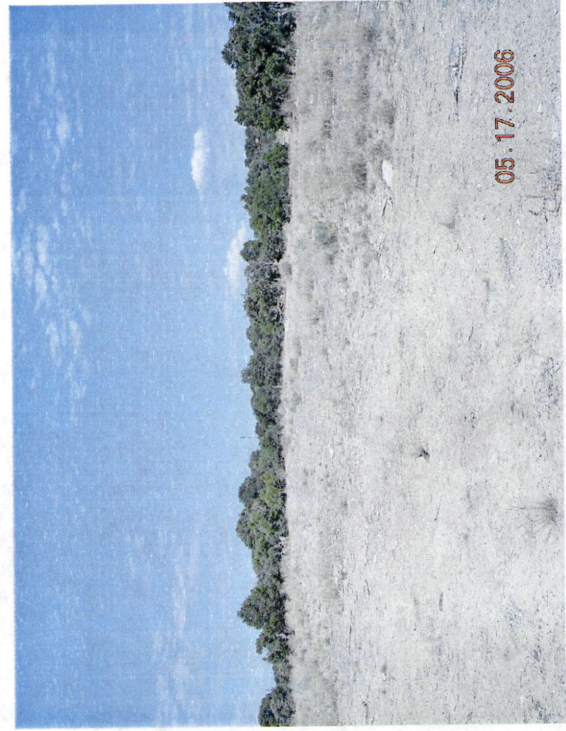


Photo 2.



Photo 4.